

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services



REVISED products from the Medicare Learning Network® (MLN)

- ["ICD-10-CM/PCS The Next Generation of Coding,"](#) Fact Sheet, ICN 901044, Downloadable and Hard Copy.



MLN Matters® Number: MM8268

Related Change Request (CR) #: CR 8268

Related CR Release Date: September 25, 2013

Effective Date: January 1, 2014

Related CR Transmittal #: R1296OTN

Implementation Date: January 6, 2014

Redaction of Health Insurance Claim Numbers (HICNs) in Medicare Redetermination Notices (MRNs)

Note: This article was revised on September 27, 2013, to reflect the release of a new Change Request (CR), dated September 25, 2013. The revised CR instructs contractors not auto-populate the HICNs on reconsideration request forms. The transmittal number, CR release date and web address for the CR also changed. All other information remains the same.

Provider Types Affected

This MLN Matters® Article is intended for physicians, providers and suppliers submitting claims to Medicare contractors (Fiscal Intermediaries (FIs), carriers, Home Health and Hospice Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs), Durable Medical Equipment MACs, and A/B MACs) for services to Medicare beneficiaries.

What You Need to Know

This article is based on CR 8268, which instructs the MACs to redact HICNs on all MRNs. Make sure that your billing staffs are aware of this change.

Disclaimer

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Background

Medicare contractors are required to issue a notice of Medicare redetermination after an appeal is requested in accordance with 42 CFR Section 405.956. One of the elements in the MRN is the beneficiary's HICN. To ensure that contractors protect personally identifiable information, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is requesting that all contractors redact the HICNs in the MRNs. The HICNs will be redacted by replacing 5 or more values of the HICN with Xs or asterisks (*) with the last 4 or 5 digits of the HICN displayed. This applies to HICNs with both alpha and numeric digits.

Additional Information

The official instruction, CR 8268, issued to your Medicare contractor regarding this change may be viewed at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Transmittals/Downloads/R1296OTN.pdf> on the CMS website.

If you have any questions, please contact your Medicare contractor at their toll-free number, which may be found at <http://www.cms.gov/Research-Statistics-Data-and-Systems/Monitoring-Programs/provider-compliance-interactive-map/index.html> on the CMS website.

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